

New Solar Vendor Evaluation Checklist

For adding solar to a property after purchase

Important: Sizing a system correctly and choosing the right installer matters more than the panel brand on the spec sheet. Use this checklist when gathering quotes, and don't sign anything until you can answer every item below.

Vendor: _____ **Date:** _____

1. Consumption & Sizing

Question	Response
Annual electricity consumption from your last 12 months of bills (kWh)?	_____
Has the installer reviewed your actual bills, or only estimated from home size?	☐ Yes ☐ No Notes: _____
Roof orientation and pitch? Any shading from neighboring structures or trees?	_____ _____
Proposed system size (kW) and number of panels?	_____
Do you plan to add an EV now or in the future? Has the system been sized to include 5–10 extra panels for EV charging?	☐ Yes ☐ No Notes: _____
Any other future loads to plan for now — pool heater, hot tub, home addition, second EV?	_____ _____

2. Battery & Backup Goals

Question	Response
Is battery storage included in the quote, or solar-only?	☐ Yes ☐ No Notes: _____
If included: battery brand, model and usable capacity (kWh)?	_____
Primary goal: self-consumption (lower bills), outage backup, or both? Sizing differs by goal.	_____
If outage backup matters: which circuits stay powered, and for how long on battery alone?	_____ _____
Will the battery recharge from solar during a daytime outage?	☐ Yes ☐ No Notes: _____
Battery warranty term and expected replacement cycle?	_____

3. Panel & Inverter Equipment

Question	Response
Panel brand and model proposed? Is it a Tier 1 manufacturer?	_____
Panel product warranty (years) and performance warranty (% output guaranteed at year 25)?	_____
Inverter brand and model — string inverter or microinverters?	_____
Inverter warranty term? Expected mid-life replacement cost?	_____
Panel dimensions and total roof area required, including spacing and access clearance?	_____
Will panels be visible from the street or neighboring properties?	☐ Yes ☐ No Notes: _____

4. Roof Type & Mounting Method

Question	Response
Roof material (clay tile, concrete tile, flat)?	
How many clay or concrete tile roof installations has this installer completed?	
Mounting method: tile hooks with flashing, or comp-out/inset replacement?	
How are broken tiles during installation handled — replaced from stock, or charged separately?	
What waterproofing and flashing approach is used at each mounting point?	
Does the installer offer a workmanship warranty specifically covering post-installation roof leaks?	☐ Yes ☐ No Notes:

5. Cost, Incentives & Contract Terms

Question	Response
Total quoted cost? Does it include permits, grid connection and all paperwork?	
Does the quote break out panels, inverter, battery, labor and permitting separately?	☐ Yes ☐ No Notes:
Are you eligible for the IRPF income tax deduction or local IBI property tax reduction? Confirmed by gestor?	☐ Yes ☐ No Notes:
Payment schedule — deposit, milestones, final payment on commissioning?	
Estimated installation timeline from contract signing to grid connection?	
Who handles grid connection paperwork and self-consumption registration?	

6. Permits & Community Approval

Question	Response
Does this region qualify for the simplified/fast-track permit process, or is formal planning permission required?	
If part of a comunidad de propietarios: has community approval been requested or granted?	☐ Yes ☐ No Notes:
Who submits the boletin electrico and compliance certification after installation?	
Does the installer provide documentation needed for tax deduction and IBI rebate applications?	☐ Yes ☐ No Notes:

7. Vetting the Installer

Question	Response
How long has the company operated specifically in this area (not just Spain generally)?	
Can they provide references or examples of past installations on similar tile roofs nearby?	☐ Yes ☐ No Notes:
Are they certified installers for the specific panel and inverter brands they're proposing?	☐ Yes ☐ No Notes:
What does their workmanship warranty cover, and for how long?	
How do they handle warranty claims if the manufacturer is based outside Spain?	
Have you obtained at least two other quotes to compare pricing and equipment?	☐ Yes ☐ No Notes:

Before You Sign: Sizing, equipment warranties, and the mounting method for your specific roof type matter more to long-term cost than the lowest quote you receive. If you're financing the purchase or installation together, or if community approval is uncertain, it's worth confirming details with your gestor or property lawyer before signing a contract.